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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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STATES ARE APPORTIONED \$2,508,527 FEDERAL AID FUNDS FOR FISH RESTORATION

Sport fishery restoration projects to be undertaken in the 48 States during fiscal year 1953 will have the benefit of an apportionment of \$2,508,527 of Federal Aid funds, according to an announcement made today by Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman. This is \$66,384 less than last year's apportionment of \$2,574,911.

These Federal funds become available to the States under the terms of the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act of August 9, 1950, probably better known as the "Dingell-Johnson Act." This program, now in its second year of operation, is enabling the States to make an inventory of their sport fishery resources and, on the basis of this information, to undertake measures which will be useful in producing better fishing.

The revenue for the Federal share of the program comes from the 10 per cent excise tax on fishing rods, creels, reels, and artificial lures, baits, and flies, paid by the manufacturers of those products. Collections from this source during the year ended June 30, 1952, totaled \$2,857,094. From this total is taken the annual apportionments of \$75,000 to Alaska, \$25,000 to Hawaii, and \$10,000 each to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, and the cost of administering the act by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

To provide a fair distribution of Federal funds, each State's share is based on the relation of the number of its fishing license holders to the total in all States, and the ratio of each State's area (including coastal and Great Lakes waters) to the area of the entire country.

The act also states "that no State can receive less than one per cent nor more than five per cent of the total apportioned to all States." This provision allows the small States enough working capital to finance comparatively big projects, while the large States will be able to receive only the maximum amount. On this basis California, Michigan, and Minnesota are given the maximum apportionment of \$125,426 each, while Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Vermont will receive the minimum of \$25,085.

To obtain the benefits of the Federal grants, the States submit project proposals to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Acting for the Secretary of the Interior, the Service reviews these proposals to learn whether they are substantial in character and design, within the meaning of the act. When a project is approved, the State game and fish departments proceed to carry out the plans, spending their own funds. The States then submit reimbursement claims for 75 per cent of the costs of the project, either periodically or at the completion of the work. The

remaining 25 per cent of project expenditures is financed out of regular State funds. All equipment, lands, and structures become the property of the States. All project workers are hired by the States and are State employees.

Apportionments to the 48 States for fiscal year 1953 are as follows:

Alabama	\$30,379	Maine	\$26,731	Ohio	\$97,505 ✓
Arizona	40,352	Maryland	25,085	Oklahoma	57,211
Arkansas	43,680	Massachusetts	25,085	Oregon	52,026
California	125,426	Michigan	125,426 ✓	Pennsylvania	73,782
Colorado	57,048	Minnesota	125,426 ✓	Rhode Island	25,085
Connecticut	25,085	Mississippi	29,402	South Carolina	25,085
Delaware	25,085	Missouri	80,908	South Dakota	34,306
Florida	45,923	Montana	59,983	Tennessee	72,754
Georgia	28,693	Nebraska	41,850	Texas	109,380
Idaho	43,617	Nevada	35,437	Utah	33,498
Illinois	88,892	New Hampshire	25,085	Vermont	25,085
Indiana	70,497	New Jersey	25,085	Virginia	39,150
Iowa	49,412	New Mexico	44,181	Washington	61,000
Kansas	46,786	New York	84,277	West Virginia	26,472
Kentucky	45,405	North Carolina	42,939	Wisconsin	118,896
Louisiana	25,085	North Dakota	26,306	Wyoming	42,715

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